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INAUGURATION

OF THE

NEW HALL

OF

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,

MARCH 18, 1884.

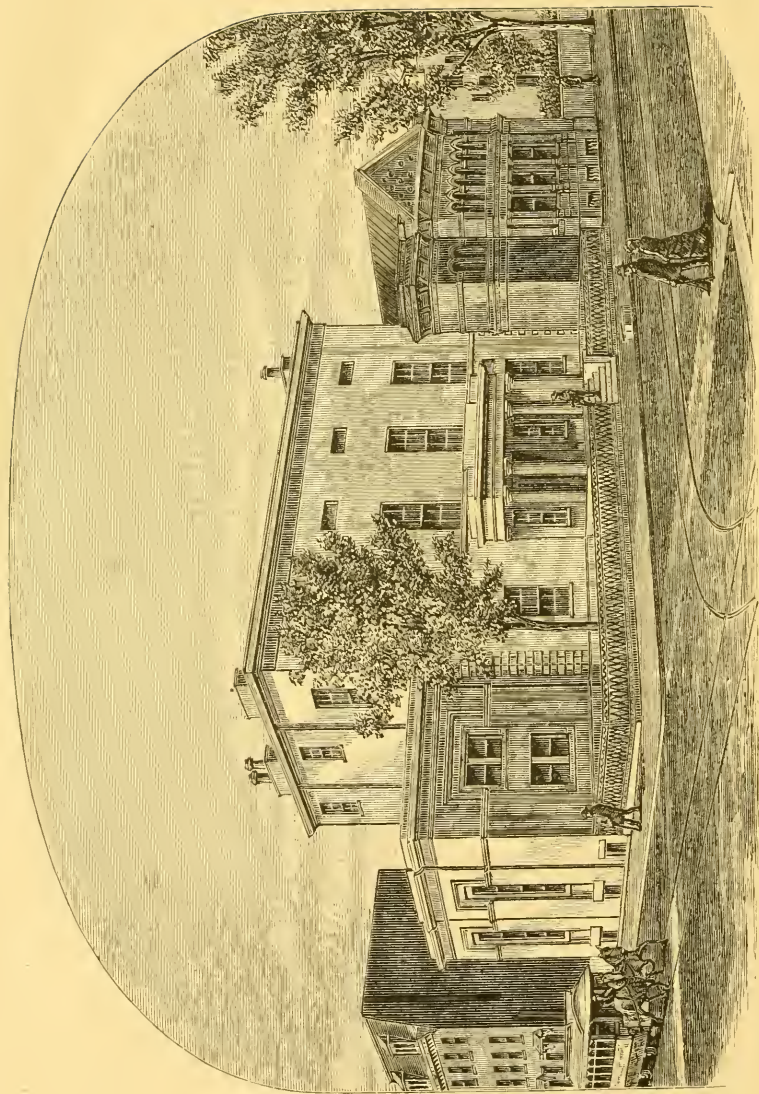


PHILADELPHIA.

1884.







THE NEW HALL OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
S. W. corner of Thirteenth and Locust Streets, Philadelphia.

*From Scharf and Westcott's History of Philadelphia.*

I N A U G U R A T I O N

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COLLINS PRINTING HOUSE,  
705 Jayne Street.

IN EXCHANGE

Pa Hist. Soc



## INAUGURATION OF THE NEW HALL OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The new hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is situated at the southwest corner of Thirteenth and Locust Streets, Philadelphia.

The main portion of the building was erected by the late John Hare Powel, in 1832, for a residence. It was purchased in 1836 by Gen. Robert Patterson, who resided there until his death in 1881. The house stands twenty feet back from the building line on Locust Street. It is sixty feet front and forty deep, and, as originally planned, had wings of twenty feet each on the east and west, giving it a frontage of one hundred feet, extending westward from Thirteenth Street. The grounds of the mansion were bounded on the west by Juniper Street, and on the south by Wynkoop Street. In November, 1882, a portion of this lot (95 feet on Locust Street, by 120 on Thirteenth), including nearly all of that occupied by the building and its wings, was offered to the Society for \$50,000. An examination of the property showed that it was admirably suited to the wants of the Society. It was substantially built; its proportions were grand; and its close proximity to the Philadelphia Library and the Library of the College of Physicians rendered its situation (central in all respects) a most desirable one for the objects of the Society. The refusal of the property until the first of February was obtained, and an appeal was at once made to the friends of the Society to enable it to make the purchase. So favorably was this proposal received that the Council felt justified in obtaining the refusal of thirty additional feet. These, with the lot first offered, making one hundred and

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twenty-five feet on Locust Street, were finally secured. An account of the subscriptions for the purchase of the property and of the expenditure for alterations will be found in the opening address of the President.

The general features of the mansion have been but little changed. The western wing has been removed, and where it stood, and on the adjoining ground, a spacious hall, 45 by 70 feet, has been erected for the meetings of the Society. The wing on the east has been rendered thoroughly fireproof. Its internal measurement is 16 by 37 feet. It is surrounded with a gallery, and affords ample space for the most valuable portions of the Society's collections. The doorways between the parlors on the first floor of the main building have been enlarged, so as to make the rooms, which are used as reading rooms, virtually one. The handsome marble mantel pieces have been retained. The upper portion of the building will be used for the storage of books and other articles of interest.

The first general meeting of the Society in the new hall occurred on the evening of the 18th of March, 1884, a large assemblage being present.

The President, Brinton Cox, Esq., occupied the chair, and made the following address:—

FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA :—

I congratulate you upon this most auspicious occasion. You have been invited here to-night to take possession of your new home, and to inaugurate it as the Hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. After fifty-nine years of existence, you now meet under a roof which is your own. You are now no longer tenants of another, but proprietors, in your own right, of your own house, on your own soil. The moral and material anxieties connected with a precari-

ous tenure, which were always matters of permanent solicitude, are now at an end.

The magnitude and excellence of these buildings speak for themselves. It is superfluous for me to praise them. Your own inspection suffices of itself to show how well our new home is adapted to the growing needs of the Society and its now enlarged mission. The laborious and able services of your Building Committee have organized a building, or, rather, system of buildings, worthy of an Academy of History. The old mansion has been rearranged as a library and adapted to the wants of students and readers. On the one side is this spacious assembly-room for your meetings and for public lectures; on the other is a fire-proof building for our manuscripts and other historic treasures and for archives which have been confided to our custody by public authority. The hall of the Historical Society is now worthy of a representative public institution.

The funds at the disposition of the Society for the purchase of this property, for new buildings and alterations, and for fixtures and furnishing have amounted to \$88,466. Of that amount \$8381 have been derived from the first building fund, and \$14,115 from the second building fund. The remainder, amounting to the large sum of \$65,970, has been derived from the generous subscriptions made during the last sixteen months by the members and the friends of the Society, who have thus secured the spacious edifice which we now inaugurate. The expenditures already made and still necessary to be made amount to \$96,318. These expenditures have thus exceeded the receipts by the sum of \$7852. There is, therefore, a deficit for that amount.

I will not do more than call your attention to this deficit. A great historian of antiquity teaches us that he who begins an historic task should at the outset avoid complaints concerning past evils, and should dwell only on the good things which fortune has granted, for it would be ill-omened to do otherwise. Such a beginning, he seems to think, is the proper time to recall past blessings and benefactions only. I, therefore, pass from our deficit to more appropriate topics.

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Nearly sixty years since, this Society was planted like an infant colony in a new continent. At first it grew feebly, precariously, at times threatened with extinction. Years elapsed before a slow steady growth was secured. Then followed a healthy and more rapid growth. Here, on this occasion of assured success and established prosperity, there are present with us a very few survivors of the active few in the restricted numbers of our ancient membership. They have watched the society through the vicissitudes of a lifetime. When it was helpless, they supported it by every service and every sacrifice. When threatened with extinction, they alone saved it. Through long years, they summered it and wintered it. The delicate plant has now become the strong healthy tree, under whose shade we are gathered together. It is to-night, therefore, the first of our duties to remember, with heartfelt gratitude, benefactors, whose care, wisdom, and devotion have guided an association depending upon a small number of supporters to the independent condition of a representative public institution.

Few, very few, of that devoted band are with us to-night to survey with mingled feelings this scene amid the gratitude of their fellow-members. But I cannot trust myself to dwell upon this subject, lest I be guilty of indiscretion; for one of these survivors is that venerable member whose paternal care of this Society, during long years, commands the filial obedience of us all. That obedience compels me to refrain from an expression of gratitude, which his delicacy of feeling has ever shrunk from receiving. I must therefore say no more.

As has been stated, the generous subscriptions of our members and friends, during the last sixteen months, have amounted in round numbers to \$66,000. This great sum not merely constitutes an immense means of usefulness to the Historical Society, but also is a proof of the respect which it has earned in this community by years of tried service. It is also a recognition of our position as a valued institution necessary to the public welfare. We now know that our Society has general recognition as a cherished guardian of

the history of the Commonwealth and the history of the country. Here, in this our permanent home, by the common consent, it will be our duty to afford the rising generations the means of knowing the inheritance which has descended upon them from the past, and of learning what lessons that past teaches them for their future. Here all, young and old, will find the means of investigating history, perpetuating historic evidence, and preserving records of the past. In some shape or other, all cities of men, both in modern as well as ancient civilization, erect temples to history and to memory. This edifice is such a monument in this community. The Society dwelling therein is now regarded by their fellow citizens as an institution, through which the community discharges imperative duties, which neither government nor individuals can perform.

Thus it is, that the mission of the Society has become enlarged and its duties have become greater. Centennial and Bicentennial anniversaries have stimulated the public attention to historic interests and the preservation of historic evidence and records. The vigilance of historical societies is felt with truth to be more than ever necessary. Manuscripts and printed pieces are every day to be rescued from fire, damp, negligence, and accident. The opportunities of acquiring for public use such as are in safety demand a constantly increasing expenditure. Our task is one in which past success involves an increase instead of a diminution of future duties. The rich collections of manuscripts and books, which our Society has accumulated in many years, brings cares which increase as the collections themselves increase. Their possession imposes the difficult task of making them used and useful. The publication and editing of texts and abstracts and of historical materials in every shape is now an exacting duty. Students and investigators must not only be made welcome under our roof, but every aid must also be afforded them, which may increase the efficiency of individual exertion. In every way the duties imposed upon such institutions as ours are increasing in number and in magnitude.



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Our country has, indeed, a history and they must help to narrate it.

What a story the narrators have to tell! But two centuries ago, but six or seven generations ago, this Commonwealth was planted in a wilderness on the tide-waters of the Atlantic, and now our country stretches from ocean to ocean. The plough has ploughed its way from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The founders of Pennsylvania thought that it might make its progress without its dread historic companion. It has been otherwise. The sword and the plough have marched together. Corn has been sown and the harvest of food has been reaped in every year. Dragon's teeth, too, have been sown and every generation has seen the harvest of armed men. The tragic tale of human nature at first seems in America to be the old, old story; but the history of the New World is, nevertheless, a new history. Though that history has been in part a tragedy, in the New World the years of peace have been much greater in number than in the Old World. The years of war have been fewer, much fewer, here than there. How to reduce war to a *minimum* is the greatest lesson which history can teach. The founders of Pennsylvania thought that war could be abolished. They erred, but their influence has been a weighty historical factor in producing the grand result by which more peace and less war has been secured in America than in Europe. The warning of the Old World must have been studied in the New. Such studies are those which it is the duty of every Historical Society in the whole land to foster, to sustain, and to guide.

Fellow-members, there remains but one thing for me to say to you. I should be untrue to the place which I hold, if I did not recall our lost hopes and frustrated expectations that another voice would welcome you to this house. It would be ingratitude, most inauspicious ingratitude, to forget the name of John William Wallace at this inauguration. His long devoted career of service and sacrifice to this Society, in its adversity and its prosperity, as member, as official, and

as president, we all hoped, would have been crowned by his presiding here to-night. But it was decreed otherwise! Nevertheless, we know how he would have felt, had he been here. His last visit to this house was one of inspection, when everything was on the verge of completion. The buildings and their capacities of usefulness gave him entire satisfaction. The fact that the Society had now a permanent domicile relieved his mind of the anxieties, which he had felt for years, upon the complicated dangers of an inopportune change of location. The extent and value of the Society's property as increased by our recent subscriptions, the prestige and confidence which recent events had demonstrated that it enjoyed in the community, and the value of our library and collections made him feel confident that the basis upon which the Society now rested was thoroughly solid. There was, above all, the elder's confiding trust that his younger colleagues would perform their duty and continue the good work, and that therefore the future of the Society was secure.

Such were his last thoughts within these walls. I repeat them to you now, for they are, indeed, good augury for the new future, which we begin to-night!

President Coxe then introduced Professor John B. McMaster, of the University of Pennsylvania, who spoke, in substance, as follows:—

There is an old saying that a good thing needs no praising. Admitting this to be true, my duty this evening is clearly not to praise; and this is most fortunate, for, were praising once begun, it would be hard to determine where most should be bestowed, on the building or on the liberality of the gentlemen who have so generously provided it. This much, however, may at least be said: no Historical Society in the land has yet come into a fairer estate. This too is a subject of congratulation. It is a sign of life and progress. Not many years since an Historical Society was commonly believed to differ but little from a dime museum. People believed its

quarters to be a dingy room in an attic, and its treasures bullets from Bunker Hill and guns from Yorktown, arrow-heads from Tippecanoe, books nobody ever read, and portraits, as like as two peas, of gentlemen in small clothes with red curtains tastefully draped behind them, and cannons and flags beyond. That there was anything lively and human about such societies was doubted. But this, most happily, is so no longer. They can and they do perform a work which every one of us is concerned in having done well. Nothing is more certain than the fact, that the times in which we live will have for those who are to come after us an interest surpassing anything which we feel for those who have gone before. To know something of the daily life of a great people who, in one generation, overspread a vast continent, drew to their shores millions of foreigners, fought a civil war and paid for it, produced the most marvellous inventions and discoveries, carried on business ventures upon a gigantic scale, and made enormous fortunes the order of the day, will, by our descendants, be thought matters worthy of note. How correct a judgment they form of us will depend solely on the material we transmit to them. Sources of history good a century ago no longer exist or are of little use. The age of the political pamphlet is gone. Whoever in 1934 derives his notions of our morality from a newspaper, of our manners from a novel, of our politics from the pages of the *Congressional Record*, and, with such material, reconstructs the world of to-day will produce something more atrocious than the patched up statues of Cesnola. To gather material for an honest history of the present, such as will show up fairly both sides of every controversy in politics, every discussion in morals, every great movement in social science, the condition of the laborer, the state of the arts, the life and manners of the time, is a proper labor for every Historical Society in the land. Each one should be a store-house for that carefully-sifted material by which alone posterity can see us as we are. A century hence this will be precisely the most difficult kind of knowledge to acquire. Newspapers will not furnish it, for they are not reliable. Letters will



not contain it, for they are too hastily written to be of much value, and too numerous to be preserved.

But there is yet another work peculiarly fitting for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to do. The close of the next presidential term will be the one-hundredth anniversary of the beginning of Federal Constitutional Government in America. The event will no doubt be fittingly celebrated in a public way. There will surely be, in every city in the land, parades and fireworks in the streets, and, in Philadelphia, perhaps, speeches in Independence Hall. All this is good in its way, but something better may be done. The importance of the Constitution is scarcely appreciated. It became the supreme law of the land on March 4, 1789. On July 14, 1789, the Bastille fell. The Federal Government was hardly established before the influence of the French Revolution began to be felt in the United States, and that influence was tremendous. It changed the dress, it modified the speech, it powerfully affected the prosperity and political future of the nation. Men became so intensely republican that they could not shape their mouths to say Sir or Mr., but called their friends citizen and their wives citess. They left off wigs, wore the "Brutus crop," put on the Liberty cap, sang *Ça ira*, danced the Carmagnole, ate Civic Feasts, formed Democratic Clubs, gave the fraternal hug, and sought admission to the Society of the Jacobins at Paris. The great shame of the Federal Republicans of that day is not that they maligned Washington as no other man ever has been maligned since. The Federalists would have done the same had Washington opposed them. It is to their shame, however, that at a time when the Revolutionary Tribunal was turning Paris into a pen of slaughter, when the gutters ran blood into the Seine, when Lyons was made a waste place, when kites feasted on the corpses that whitened the banks of the Loire, when drowning boats, and "Republican marriages," and "national baths" had become the pastime of the French people, the Republicans of America could see nothing infamous in all these things. The party which then sprang up held high an extreme doctrine of republicanism. Liberty was to them

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license. A strong national government was to them but another name for monarchy. Now, to put forth a correct showing of each side of the controversy, which during these years of French influence was waged over the Constitution, would be a great contribution to that history of the Constitution which is yet to be written. It belongs peculiarly to this Society. In this city the document was framed. In this city the first contest over it began, and here for ten years the Federal Government sat. To reprint the debates in the State Convention called to consider the ratification of the Constitution, to reprint the squibs, the essays, the pamphlets, the comments that filled the journals and gazettes, in a word, to show what the people thought of the Constitution from 1787 to 1800, would be a most wise and useful work.

The Society has done much for the past. At length some justice has been rendered William Penn. Could Mr. Macaulay come back and read the books on these shelves, he would be compelled to rewrite his estimate of Penn. Let something also be done for the present.

Mr. Charles G. Leland moved that the thanks of the Society be tendered to Professor McMaster for his able and instructive address, with a request for a copy of the same for the use of the Society.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Hampton L. Carson in the following words:—

Mr. President: It gives me much pleasure to second the Resolutions just offered. We are indebted to Professor McMaster not only for the matter and manner of his address of this evening, containing many thoughtful suggestions, but particularly for the value of his example as an author in directing attention to the most important event in our political history as a people. I mean the formation of our National Government.

It is true that there are other epochs more stirring in incident, or more captivating to the fancy, but none more rich in

results which have blessed and benefited mankind. All that preceded the building of our Constitution would have been lost or squandered, and all that has followed it would have been materially different in character, had not the fruits of our Revolutionary struggles been preserved for all time in the Constitution of the United States. It was upon this great structure that the political architects of the day lavished their intellectual wealth, and hence to the philosophic student of our institutions, both here and elsewhere, there can be no period more curious, or which will better repay his investigations. It is the contribution of America to the Science of Politics. It is her attempt to solve that vexed problem, which, from times long before the days of Plato, has agitated man.

It is not the blind partiality of national prejudice to speak of our heroes in terms of admiration, nor is it mere enthusiasm to speak of their work in words of praise. The men of our Revolution will compare favorably with those of any race or age whom history has recognized as great. Their characters were noble, their temper was tried by the severest tests, and their experience covered every field of human activity. As soldiers, they were distinguished; no generals ever surpassed Washington and Greene in sagacity or in the power of wresting victory from defeat. As orators, they were illustrious; few men ever equalled the fire of Henry or the classic elegance of Lee. As writers, they were pre-eminent; in nineteen hundred years but one Thomas Jefferson has arisen to pen such a document as the Declaration of Independence. Not Swift and Addison produced such profound results as pamphleteers as Paine and Franklin. As statesmen, they rank among the foremost of the world; Hamilton and Madison and Jay, in the power of constructive intellect, will yield to none in either ancient or modern Europe.

The Constitution of the United States was the masterpiece of master minds. It is, fitly speaking, their crown and glory. It contains the best thoughts of statesmen trained in the best schools; it embodies the political experience of the English

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race, and ranks with Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights as a bulwark of Human Freedom. The great work of framing its provisions was done in this city, and the time is now close at hand when the Centennial Jubilee of the Constitution will be celebrated. Surely there can be no higher patriotic duty for any of us to perform than to study with reverence the deeds of that day. The appropriate work of this Society will be to illustrate the labors of the Federal Convention, to point out the part played by Pennsylvania in the great drama, to throw light upon all doubtful questions, to awaken individual interest, to stimulate individual inquiry, to assist individual effort and aid public exertion, to enter into correspondence with similar associations in sister States, and enforce upon the attention of the National Government the importance and necessity of collecting, preserving, and publishing all that relates to the origin of our Republic. We are not only to be congratulated, but we can fairly congratulate ourselves that, owing to the energy and prudent management of our officers and the zeal of their co-operators, we enter, to-night, under the happiest auspices, upon a new career of usefulness and honor.

“To form and uphold a state, it is not enough that our judgments believe it to be useful, the better part of our affections must feel it to be lovely. It is not enough that our arithmetic should be able to compute its value and find it high, our hearts must hold it priceless, above all things rich or rare, dearer than health or beauty, brighter than all the order of the stars.”

In the spirit of these words of Rufus Choate let us dedicate ourselves to the work before us.

The motion was then adopted.

After this Mr. Lloyd P. Smith spoke as follows:—

Mr. President: Thirty years ago I read a book entitled, “The Blackwater Chronicle; a narrative of an expedition into the land of Canaan in Randolph County, Va., a country

flowing with wild animals, by five adventurous gentlemen, *without any aid of government.*" I am somehow reminded of that curious title-page when I think of this goodly building, this priceless collection of the records of our State and of the United States—it has been made without any aid of government. Not so with the newer and (shall I say) more enlightened States of the West, whose Historical Societies—and admirable some of them are—have ever been supported wholly or in part by government. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, for example, buys whatever its Library Committee thinks proper, and the State foots the bill. Of course it has a good library. Pennsylvania, as a State, does not recognize its Historical Society, and Philadelphia as a corporation has never taxed its citizens one dollar to build it up. What we are as a Society we owe to the unselfish enthusiasm, the unpaid toil of the late Mr. Watson the annalist, the late Mr. Hazard the historian, the late Mr. Armstrong the antiquarian, the late Mr. Wallace the man of letters—too soon taken from us—and others whose names I need not now recall; we owe it to the unostentatious devotion of Mr. Jordan, the conscientious zeal and learning of Mr. Stone, the tact and perseverance of Mr. Ward, the unparalleled industry of Mr. Hildeburn, the liberal gifts of money or time and thought of many others. "A poor thing, your worship, but mine own." No, not a poor thing, Mr. President, but a thing to be justly proud of; and, as a Philadelphian, I, for one, am proud of it, exceeding proud. It is, in the treasures it has got together, in the learning and courtesy of its officers, a real embodiment of sweetness and light, and unborn generations shall honor the memory of every man who had a hand in building up here in Philadelphia one of the really great historical collections of the country.

In this building, admirably adapted to its purpose, the Society turns over a new leaf, it enters on a career of expanded usefulness. The edifice is not only larger and better adapted to the needs of the Society than the old one, but the situation is better, and I congratulate the Library Company whom I have the honor to serve, I congratulate the students of



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Philadelphia and elsewhere on the fact that the Philadelphia Library, the Historical Society, and the College of Physicians—the best medical library, with one exception, in the country—are now all within a stone's throw of each other. The Law Library will doubtless soon move to Broad Street, and then four of the most important libraries of Philadelphia, each one supplementing the others, will be close together. These institutions, Mr. President, are not rivals, and still less enemies; they are allies. They fight together against the kingdom of darkness and ignorance and obscurantism; they form square against the modern Goths and Vandals; their quadrilateral constitutes one mighty citadel of thought.

Fellow members of the Historical Society! I congratulate you also on the admirable choice you have made of a President for the Society. A student and a collector all his life, he has not only the necessary scholarship, but he has the leisure and the inclination to serve your interests and the interests of historical science. Books, gentlemen, do not grow upon the shelves of a library; they must be got together as Opie mixed his paints—"with brains, sir"—the truth being that the bibliographical knowledge needed for a wise selection of books is one of the rarest accomplishments in the world. Your President has it and so has your Librarian. Long may they live to shed honor on our Society and to make Philadelphia illustrious among the cities of the world.

The President then stated that when the Society was about to move into its new home a hope was expressed that the collection of portraits of its former presiding officers might be made complete, and that, when this came to the knowledge of the family of the late George W. Norris, M.D., his surviving son and daughter with great liberality and consideration at once offered to have a portrait painted of their late father. This was accordingly done by a well-known artist, Mr. Matthew Wilson, of Lake George, New York, and the portrait, which was displayed upon an easel by the side of the

President, was then tendered as a gift to the Society in a letter from William F. Norris, M.D., which was read by the Secretary.

Henry Flanders, Esq., expressed the gratification which the members of the Society and the friends of Doctor Norris must feel that the Society had come into possession of the portrait, and offered the following resolution:—

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania be and they are hereby tendered to Dr. William F. Norris and Mrs. Mary F. Parsons for the excellent portrait of their late father, Dr. George W. Norris, formerly President of the Society, and for the kindness which prompted them in adding it to the Society's collection of portraits of its former presiding officers.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. William Hunt, who said that the Historical Society would most gratefully accept the gift. No portrait is more fitting to be in its possession. It is that of a man who took a deep interest in all things pertaining to the welfare of the Society. It is that of one whose family had taken a most prominent part in the history of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia from the earliest colonial days to the present time. More than all, it is that of a man of truth, of one who was an honor alike to his city, his profession, and his name.

The resolution was then adopted.

The meeting then adjourned.





# THE NEW HALL

## OF

### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

On the first of February, 1883, the Society purchased the house and lot of ground No. 1300 Locust Street, erected by John Hare Powel, in 1833, and from 1835 until recently occupied by Gen. Robert Patterson. The means for this purchase were obtained as follows:—

In 1855 a subscription was begun for a Building Fund for the Society. This, with additions from time to time, and with accrued interest, was kept well invested, and in 1883, yielded the sum of

\$22,496 65

Late in 1882 a subscription in aid of the purchase was begun among members and others, and is yet continued. The following is the result at this time, May, 1884.

1	subscription of	\$2000 00	.	.	.	\$2,000 00
20	"	" 1000 00	.	.	.	20,000 00
33	"	" 500 00	.	.	.	16,500 00
4	"	" 300 00	.	.	.	1,200 00
25	"	" 250 00	.	.	.	6,250 00
13	"	" 200 00	.	.	.	2,600 00
115	"	" 100 00	.	.	.	11,500 00
65	"	" 50 00	.	.	.	3,250 00
1	"	" 66 14	.	.	.	66 14
1	"	" 48 20	.	.	.	48 20
1	"	" 40 00	.	.	.	40 00
1	"	" 30 00	.	.	.	30 00
86	"	" 25 00	.	.	.	2,150 00
25	"	" 20 00	.	.	.	500 00
2	"	" 15 00	.	.	.	30 00
38	"	" 10 00	.	.	.	380 00
1	"	" 6 00	.	.	.	6 00
5	"	" 5 00	.	.	.	25 00
						66,575 34
437						\$89,071 99

There has been paid for the real estate . . . . .	\$62,500 00
“ “ taxes, policy of insurance . . . . .	935 00
“ “ new buildings, alterations, etc. . . . .	32,033 71
Estimate for new work yet to be done . . . . .	2,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$97,468 71
Amount received . . . . .	89,071 99
	<hr/>
Amount yet required . . . . .	<u>\$8,396 72</u>

The “estimate for new work yet to be done” is for the construction of suitable and secure cases for the display of rare books and manuscripts. These are of an extent and character well calculated to reflect credit upon the people of Pennsylvania, through whose liberality they have been obtained. This liberality can best be recognized by such a display. A portion of the projected work is for the rooms on the upper floors of the house. This, however, will require but a few hundred dollars.

The accounts of the Building Committee, of which the above is an abstract, have been audited by Messrs. William P. Cresson, John B. Gest, and Brinton Coxe.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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